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359CLASSIFICATION ~~Secret~~COUNTRY Soviet Zone of GermanyTOPIC Military Information and Soviet Document from Koenigsbrueck

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DATE OF CONTENT 10 to 15 April 1950

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DATE PREPARED 13 June 1950

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PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

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Koenigsbrueck (N 52/A 31) troop training grounds.

1. Bohra was completely destroyed by artillery fire and was not habitable on 14 April 1950. There were cantonments on the western perimeter of the town. Some Soviet soldiers were seen.
2. Zochau, Rohna, Zietsch, Otterschuetz, Quosdorf, Steinborn, Sella and Krakau also were completely destroyed by artillery fire and were not habitable. Cantonments were located on the western perimeter of the latter town. About 100 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets were seen there.
3. German peasants resided in Zelsholz and Naundorf on 14 April 1950. Some of the buildings on the eastern edge of Naundorf were damaged by shell fire.

Motor Vehicle Traffic on 14 April 1950

4. Trucks occupied by three officers and about twelve men wearing red-bordered black epaulets, moved from Bohra toward Thiendorf. They were loaded with mattresses and furniture.

5. 6. 7.

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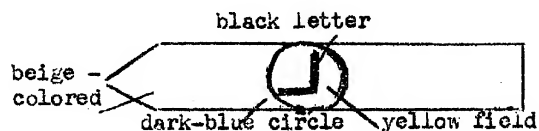
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9.

10. A direction signboard pointing toward Koenigsbrueck was seen on the Thiendorf-Koenigsbrueck road:



11. Units were not yet maneuvering at the training grounds on 14 April 1950. Troops reconditioned and furnished the cantonments along the Koenigsbrueck-Schwepnitz road (1). As there was little activity at that time the cantonments were not fully occupied. Machine gun, submachine gun and rifle fire, and detonations of hand grenades were heard from the direction of Neues Lager. Reports by artillery pieces were heard the afternoon of 14 April 1950. Two biplanes circled over the training field, where the location of the batteries could not be ascertained.

12. Occupation of the Koenigsbrueck Nachrichtenschule was unchanged on 15 April 1950. Women and three officers packed items into large boxes in front of the officers billets.

About 200 soldiers in groups of 8 to 15 held advanced combat training with rifles and machine guns in the Pulsnitz Valley on 11 April 1950. The troops wore gasmasks.

One officer, three NCOs and twentyfour MI wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with artillery insignia, marched out of the barracks on 15 April 1950. The men wore gasmasks but did not carry arms.

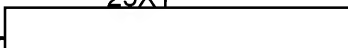


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13. No changes in the occupation of Altes Lager were observed on 12 and 15 April 1950.

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14. The Koenigsbrueck-Schwepnitz road was closed to civilian traffic on and after 10 April 1950.

Four sentries wearing red-bordered black epaulets checked all Soviet vehicles and military **personnel** that came from the direction of Koenigsbrueck and wanted to travel on the road. Germans were turned back by the sentries. It was the impression that new troop units had arrived in Neues Lager which was still not occupied to capacity. About 120 soldiers were seen filling bedsacks.

One officer and 31 soldiers wearing red-bordered green epaulets marched toward Neues Lager on 11 April 1950. Troops going toward Neues Lager - both individually and in groups - mostly wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia and artillery insignia. Some wore red-bordered black epaulets either without insignia or with radio insignia, black-bordered black epaulets with engineer insignia, black-bordered red epaulets and red-bordered green epaulets without branch-of-service insignia.

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An envelope [redacted] was found at the main gate of Neues Lager on Hoyerwerdaerstrasse, Koenigsbrueck. (5)

15. a. Timber and boards were detrained at the Schmorken railroad station on 13 April 1950 and hauled toward the summer

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[REDACTED]

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camp [REDACTED] each of which made several trips. (1)

b. Flour bags were unloaded at the Koenigsbrueck railroad station on 14 April 1950. [REDACTED]

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- (1) [REDACTED] Comment. It was reported in November 1949 that the summer camp was policed. [REDACTED] It can therefore be expected that troops will move into the camp in the Summer of 1950. That information is confirmed and supplemented by several other reports indicating that elements of three divisions left their military posts, probably for the Koenigsbrueck troop training grounds, after mid-April 1950. [REDACTED]

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- (2) [REDACTED] Comment. Artillery and mortar components of the 11th Gds Tank Div, and units of the 4th AAA Div are assumed to be permanently stationed in the former Nachrichtenschule, [REDACTED]

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(3)

[REDACTED]

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- (4) [REDACTED] Comment. The units which arrived in Neues Lager after 10 April 1950, possibly for field exercises, belonged to the 8th Gds Recz Div, the 9th Tank Div and the 11th Gds Tank Div, [REDACTED]

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- (5) [REDACTED] Comment. During the war, [REDACTED] was identified with the newspaper of the XI Gds Tank Corps, the present 11th Gds Tank Div. [REDACTED]

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In 1948 [REDACTED] was reported frequently from Niedersiedlitz (Dresden). It was seen on documents from the Koenigsbrueck troop training grounds (Neues Lager) in November 1949 and on documents from Klotzsche in March 1950. It is possibly assigned to a component unit of the 11th Gds Tank Div.

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